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June, 1924



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The Illustrated Guide

TO

MUNDESLEY-ON-SEA

CONTAINING BRIEF SKETCHES
OF MANY PLACES OF INTEREST IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD,
AS WELL AS SEVERAL EXCELLENT
ILLUSTRATIONS OF MUNDESLEY AND DISTRICT

BY

LEMMON LINGWOOD

*Author of Jarrold's Illustrated Guides to "Colchester," "Clacton-on-Sea,"
"Gt. Yarmouth," "Lowestoft," and "Wells-next-the-Sea"*

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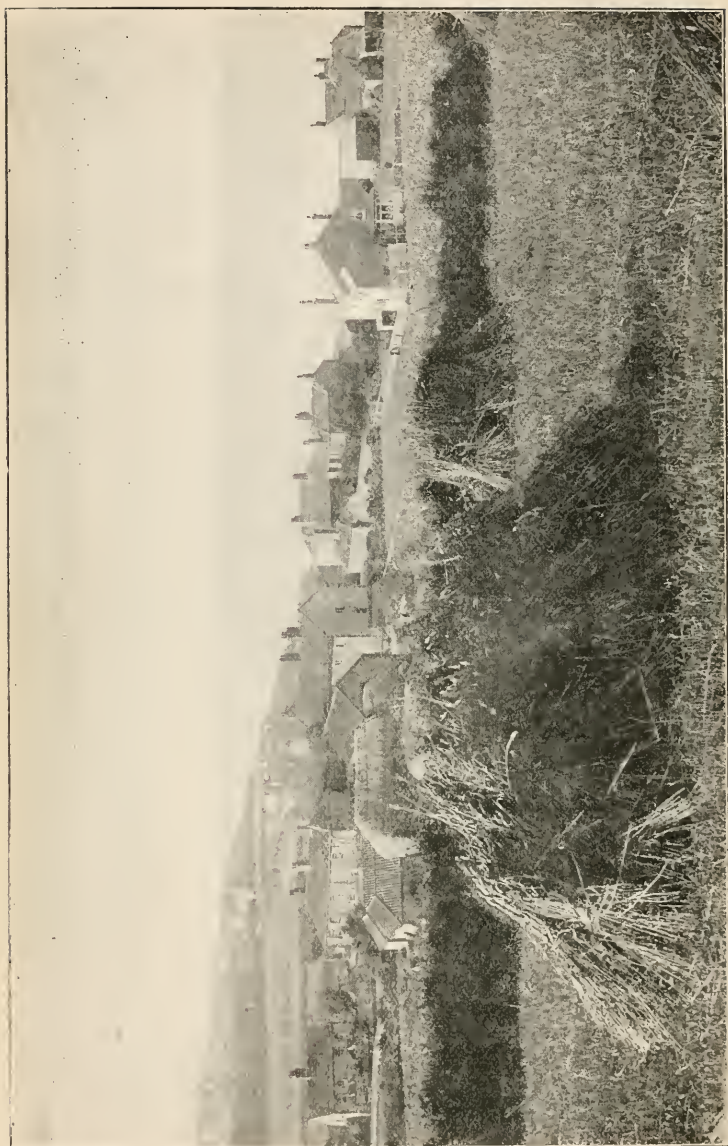
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From 'a Photo by]

MUNDESLEY.

[C. Cole, Mundesley.]

MUNDESLEY-ON-SEA.



MUNDESLEY-ON-SEA, that delightfully-situated East Anglian seaside village, is rapidly developing into a popular holiday resort. True it is, that it has for many years been known to the select few who desired perfect rest and charming scenery ; but now that the railway whistle is heard within its borders, and its old-time associations are fast giving place to modern ideas and requirements, we shall number its visitors, **not** by scores, but by hundreds and thousands.

It is the progressive spirit again that is in evidence. It is no wonder that Mundesley is receiving its rightful share of patronage, when we consider the enterprise of its inhabitants.

To bring a place prominently before the notice of the travelling public, with the hearty and enthusiastic co-operation of the local residents, is a much easier task than endeavouring to do it without such assistance.

Mundesley is one of those delightful East Anglian nooks that *must* grow. To use a vulgar phrase, it has "caught on," and all some people seem to do is to talk about its beauties, its restfulness, the splendour of its sands and sea, the ruggedness of its lofty cliffs, which command such an extensive and uninterrupted view of the German Ocean; and its picturesque ruined church, a splendid specimen of the old Gothic architecture, dating back to the fifteenth century.

Mrs. Berlyn, in "Photo Pictures in East Anglia," writes:—"There is a grandeur about the cliffs, and the sea foaming and tossing at their base from here to Cromer, that no other part of the East Anglian Coast possesses. And here, at Mundesley, the waves positively thunder upon the shore, lashing and plunging up these gigantic cliffs, and tearing away huge masses of earth as they recede; yet when, like a tired giant, the sea lies along the miles of firm, white sands, stretching right from Bacton to Sheringham, these shores make the grandest possible playground for the little ones, and the most glorious promenade imaginable. As in the Cromer district, the cliffs are perhaps the principal attraction of Mundesley, not only because the views of sea and country are so fine from hence, but because up here the air is as sweet and strong as new wine. To stand on these grassy heights when the wind blows in from the splendid sweep of sea, and watch the waves breaking



From a Photo by

MUNDESLEY BEACH.

[C. Co.e, Mundesley.

against these magnificent sands, or dashing well-nigh to the windows of the hotel on the cliffs, is indeed to take a deep draught of health and vigour for mind and body.

"All around the scenery is charming, the walks delightful, the interest great."

We have thus far spoken in general eulogistic terms about this pretty resort. Let us particularize a little.

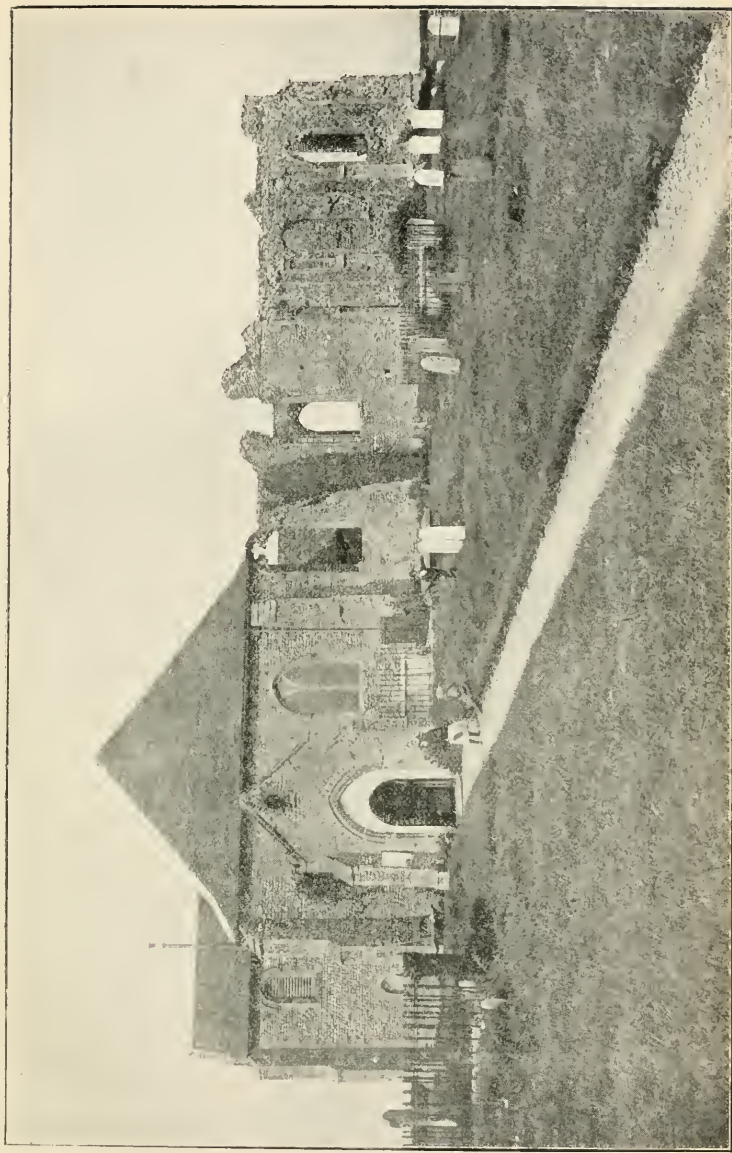
There is the ruined Church of ALL SAINTS—already mentioned—with its ivied walls, its sixteenth-century bell, and its ancient font, which has celebrated its 500th birthday. Services are held in a portion of the nave.

The BAPTIST CHAPEL, erected in 1843, has 250 sittings, and in addition possesses a large schoolroom in the rear.

The WESLEYAN CHAPEL, recently built at a cost of £900, is a graceful Gothic structure, and will accommodate 350 persons.

Then there is a Young Men's Club and Reading Room, also a Reading Room and Circulating Library, for the convenience of visitors, at the Central Agency.

The new line from North Walsham to Mundesley-on-Sea is the first section of a larger scheme of new railways to be constructed under the auspices of a Joint Committee of the Great Eastern and Midland and Great Northern Railways, called the Norfolk and Suffolk Joint Railways Committee, and has brought this lovely resort within about three hours of London. Cromer, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, and the celebrated Broad District, are thus brought within easy distance of Mundesley by an excellent service of trains. The Great Eastern Railway Company, with their exceptional



business ability and spirited enterprise, are running express trains from Liverpool Street to Mundesley, doing the journey in about three hours. To travel in one of their new lavatory carriages, whether first or third, from London to this charming resort, is luxury indeed. The excellent arrangements they have made for our comfort and convenience certainly merit our heartiest support.

Well-appointed omnibuses and char-à-bancs also run to and fro from North Walsham and Cromer during the season.

Then there are the HOTELS, about which we cannot speak too highly, for they are all splendidly arranged.

"THE CLARENCE," containing large dining-rooms, private sitting-rooms, drawing-rooms, reading-rooms, billiard-room, and smoking-room, faces the sea, and is fitted up with all the latest improvements.

"THE ROYAL," a comfortable commercial and family hotel, is close to the sea and station. A special feature is made of tennis courts.

"THE OLD SHIP," an old-fashioned hostelry, with an enclosed green overlooking the beach, has good accommodation for day parties and good stabling.

Besides the hotels, there are a good number of lodging houses. All particulars of these will be willingly and courteously given by Messrs. T. L. Wakelin & Son, surveyors, estate and insurance agents, at the Central Agency. For the use of their reading-room and writing material, a modest weekly or monthly charge is made.

Messrs. Wakelin & Son have also a dépôt for bicycles,

where cycles of every description may be hired, housed, cleaned and repaired at a small charge.

There are not yet a large number of shops in Mundesley, but a general grocery and drapery store that can be confidently recommended to visitors is that under the proprietorship of Mr. C. Cole, Melbourne Stores.

Our brief sketch of Mundesley must come to a close. We have tried to be fair, just, and modest in our assertions respecting its many charms. All that remains for us to say is—Visit it for yourselves, and we feel confident you will not leave disappointed, but rather with the poet Cowper, the poet who spent many an hour tramping to and fro on these lovely firm white sands, find something “inexpressibly soothing in the monotonous sound of the breakers.”

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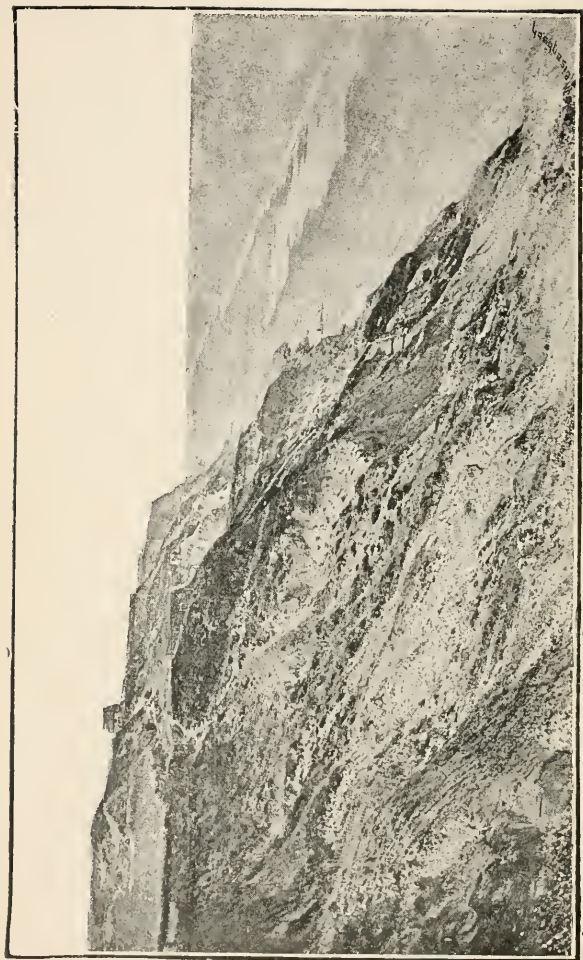
LETTERS arrive at 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., and are despatched to all parts at 11.5 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.

There are three wall boxes.

TELEGRAMS are sent out and received from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

TELEPHONE is laid on to Cromer and Yarmouth.

MESSRS. BARCLAY & Co. have a branch bank. Attendances in the summer months—Tuesdays and Fridays; winter months—Tuesdays.



From a Photo by

TRININGHAM, NEAR CROMER.

[Stereoscopic Company.]

Places of Interest in the Neighbourhood of Mundesley.

TRIMINGHAM.

Two miles from Mundesley in the Cromer direction is Trimingham, which stands on the highest ground in Norfolk. The cliffs here are not less than three hundred feet high. This place is being "opened up" for visitors who seek the seaside solely for pure air, rest, and quietude.

Trimingham was a noted place of resort in the middle ages, not because of the picturesqueness of its situation or other natural attractions, but because, by some extraordinary means, the head of John the Baptist had got to the parish church, which was dedicated to that saint. Of course such a "relic" was credited with being able to work the most wonderful miracles on behalf of the faithful. The wife of a young man at Crostwight, a village of some 16 miles distance, bequeathed an amount in her will for a man to go on a pilgrimage to St. John's Head.

SIDESTRAND,

The small parish near to Trimingham, with a Church dedicated to St. Michael, containing only four hundred acres of land, is world-famed as the site of Clement Scott's "Garden of Sleep."

It was during Clement Scott's rambles round the East Coast, some years ago, that he "chanced to find such an

exceptionally-favoured and smiling corner, a village so secluded and at peace, surrounded by fields within full view of the



summer sea," and the outcome of the visit was the popular 'Poppyland' and the ever-welcome "Garden of Sleep."

OVERSTRAND,

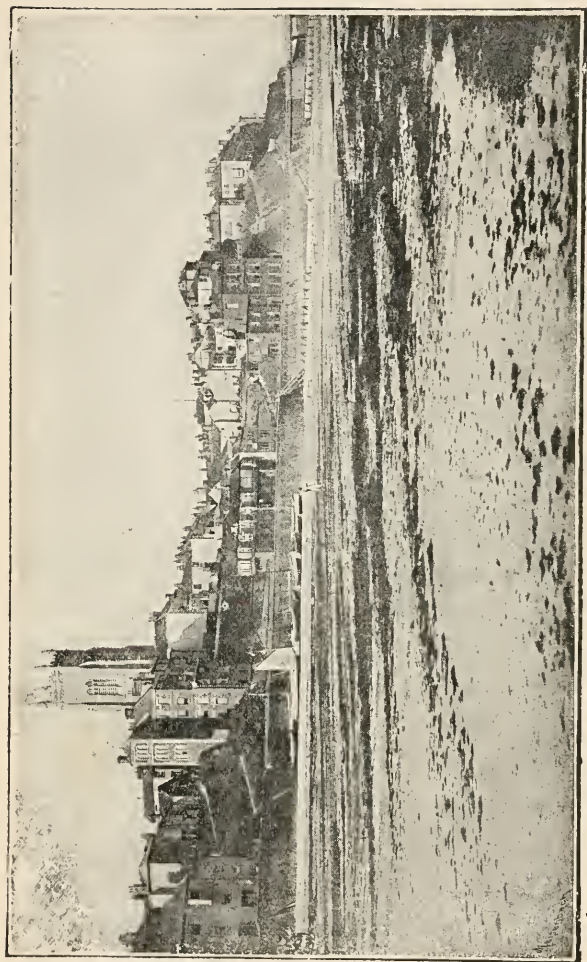
About five miles distant from Mundesley, is becoming famous. Within a short distance of the Church is the charming and much-visited Northrepps Cottage, once the residence of the much-beloved Miss Anna Gurney. In the churchyard is the last resting-place of many members of the same eminent family.

Near the beach is the hamlet and fishing-station, commonly called Beck Hythe, with a curing house and a free school!

CROMER.

(About 8 miles from Mundesley.)

No place within so short a journey of the metropolis combines in a more marked degree than Cromer the great desideratum of salubrious and invigorating air, with the glorious prospect of the open sea on the one hand and of pleasing undulating well-wooded scenery on the other. At Cromer, the lover of Nature in her fairest moods, the student of the Tertiary rocks or of the plants which adorn their surface, the wearied man of business yearning for a brief rest, the invalid or convalescent seeking a renewal of health and strength, will each find what will minister to his or her need or gratification. A great charm of Cromer has been that it was "far from the madding crowd." Nestling within an amphitheatre of hills, it has the appearance from a distance that it



From a Photo by

CROMER FROM THE BEACH.

[*Valentine & Sons.*

may glide out of the hollow, at the spot where the cliffs are lowest, into the sea towards which it dips.

Until a few years ago the whistle of the steam engine was not heard by residents in the quiet little fishing town perched upon the cliff. Four-in-hand coaches conveyed passengers in about three hours from Norwich to Cromer, while a carrier's cart did the distance without any particular limitation of time. One of the last drivers of these four-in-hand coaches, who adopted that business for amusement, was an unhappy descendant of the house of Windham, whose escapades a score years ago created some notoriety.

As a consequence of the isolation resulting from an absence of railway communication, Cromer enjoyed a tranquility and repose which, coupled with its bracing air and picturesque scenery, had a fascination for those of the "upper ten," who, delighting in what is healthful and beautiful in Nature, found here a charming retreat from the conventionalisms and meretricious pleasures of the busy world. But it was impossible that Cromer, with its reputation as a health-giving resort, should long remain the happy hunting-ground of the wealthy few.

Since the Great Eastern Railway completed its East Norfolk Line of Railway from Norwich, *via* North Walsham, to Cromer, this delightful seaside resort has become known to thousands of visitors from a distance, and even to tens of thousands of the inhabitants of Norfolk, to whom it had been hitherto *terra incognita*. In 1887 the Eastern and Midlands Railway Company extended their line from Lynn and Fakenham, *via* Holt, to Cromer, thus bringing this charming spot

within comparatively easy reach of the great population of the Midlands. This line has since become the property of the Midland and Great Northern Joint Railway Company.

But notwithstanding the opening up of Cromer by these two railways, and its becoming year by year more and more a place of resort for those who love both the seaside and rural scenery which suggests passages of pastoral poetry, the place retains much of its old charm of repose and restfulness. There is little or no traffic to Cromer by land, beyond that attendant upon the arrival and departure of visitors ; while the traffic to it from the sea is principally confined to the native coast fishermen, whose boats, after every short cruise, have to be hauled up on the strand, if not up the cliff, in winter, out of the reach of the boisterous breakers.



WEST CLIFF, CROMER.

Excursion to Bacton, Bromholm Priory, and Paston.

When the visitor is at Mundesley an endeavour should by all means be made to see Bacton, three miles further on, in which stands the ruins of a once famous Cluniac Priory, that was in the middle ages the resort of high and low, rich and poor, for it was credited with possessing a piece of the true cross, and of course unfailingly wrought miracles. Chaucer makes the miller's wife, in the Reeve's Tale, call upon the marvellous rood: "Help! Holy cross of Bromholm."

In walking by the cliffs from Mundesley to Bacton, the visitor has before him a splendid view of a wide stretch of country, gently rising in the distance, and thus bringing into view village beyond village. The round tower with octagonal top, standing on the side of a hill, is the Church of Edington; and beyond it, somewhat to the north-east, nestling in a grove, its square tower just visible above the trees, is Paston Church, situate alongside the modern hall which has supplanted that old mansion where dwelt "Good Judge" Paston and his wife, Agnes Paston, whose sons and daughters have told us so much of the social life of the fifteenth century in their famous correspondence.

Bacton Church, which has a lofty tower, stands some half a mile north of the village, and east of the sea. The village of Bacton, in fact, clusters around the venerable ivy-covered ruins of Bromholm Priory, as if to show its faithful attachment, even in its desolation, to the old religious house upon whose

prosperity it once flourished. Mr. Cubitt, who resides at the mansion alongside Bromholm Priory, called "Bacton Abbey," very kindly permits visitors on presenting their cards to inspect these most interesting ruins.

THE PRIORY OF BROMHOLM.

Early in the twelfth century William de Glanville, Lord of Bacton, with half a dozen Cluniac monks, founded this once noted priory, on the remains of which may be seen some good examples of late Norman and Early English architecture. The best preserved of these architectural remains are in the massive square fragment that was originally the north transept of the grand conventual church. The south transept is gone; but among the ruined masonry, on the south side, may be traced various apartments of the Priory. It is said that the north transept was part of the original monastery founded by William de Glanville. It was in the first quarter of the thirteenth century that the Priory had to be enlarged, owing to the reputation it won through its acquisition of

THE FAMOUS HOLY ROOD.

Matthew Paris tells the story of the wonderful cross. Baldwin, Count of Flanders, made Emperor of Constantinople, being harassed by infidel kings, and neglecting in his march against them to take the cross of our Lord and other relics which always used to be carried before him, was defeated and slain. A chaplain of English extraction who had charge of

the relics, hearing of the Emperor's death, privately left Constantinople for England, taking those treasures with him. At St. Alban's he sold jewelled crosses and images of St. Margaret to the monks, who declined to purchase of him a wooden cross, which he declared on oath was a piece of the cross on which Christ suffered. Anxious for means to support his two children, the chaplain offered his wooden cross to several rich monasteries, from which he was repulsed. Finally he came to the poor chapel of Bromholm. "There he sent for the Prior and some of his brethren, and showed them the above-mentioned cross, which was constructed of two pieces of wood, placed one across the other, and almost as wide as the hand of a man; he then humbly implored them to receive him into their order, with the cross and the other relics which he had with him, as well as his two children." His request was acceded to. Soon miracles began to be wrought at the monastery—the dead were restored to life, the blind received sight, the lame walked, the lepers were made clean, and devils were exorcised!

The Paston family were great patrons of Bromholm. John Paston was buried here in 1466. His "wake," held at the monastery, was a grand one. For three days one man was engaged in flaying beasts. Provision was made of 13 barrels of beer, 27 barrels of ale, a barrel of beer of the great assize, and a runlet of red wine of 15 gallons. The country round was swept of geese, chickens, and capons. There were also provided 1,300 eggs, 20 gallons of milk, 8 of cream, 41 pigs, 49 calves, and 10 neat stock. A barber was occupied five

days in smarting up the monks for the ceremony. It is now impossible to point out the spot where John Paston was buried.

Bacton is growing in reputation in this nineteenth century as a seaside resort, and new buildings are springing up alongside the narrow road-ways between the village street and the sea. The present distance from Bacton to a railway station, that at North Walsham, is about five miles, but within measurable distance of time a railway will be running into the village.



BACTON.

THE HOME OF THE PASTONS.

Paston, from whence the Paston family sprang, is about three miles from Bacton. The Church, which consists of a plain nave and chancel, with a square tower, stands behind the grove encircling the Hall. It is dedicated to St. Margaret. Perhaps the plainness of the Church may be accounted for by the fact that "the Good Judge" and his sons favoured the monastic houses of the county, while the judge was buried in Norwich Cathedral. John, his eldest son, as we have seen,

was buried at Bromholm. The earliest monument of the Pastons in this Church is a brass on the floor in the chancel, in front of an altar tomb, which has the following inscription :

“ Here Eastimus Paston and Marye his wiffe
 enclosed are in claye,
 Which is the Resting place of fleache
 until the latter daye.
 Off sonnes five and daughters nyne the
 lorde them parents made,
 Ere cruel death did work his cruell
 spite or fykell liff did fade.
 Eastimus Paston, deceased ye 14th of No 1538,
 and Marye his wife decd ye
 —of—”

The finest monument here is that in marble, erected to the memory of Lady Katherine Paston, wife of Sir Edmund Paston. It has a recumbent effigy of that lady, beautifully executed, in 1629, by Nathaniel Stone, at the cost of £340. The effigy, which is that of a venerable lady in the rich costume of the period, rests beneath a double canopy, and the following inscription:—“To the reviving memory of the vertuous and right worthy dame Katherine Paston, daughter unto the Right Worshipful Sir Thomas Knevitt, Knight, and wife of Sir Edmund Paston, Knight, with whom she lived in wedlock 26 years, and had issue 2 sons, yet surviving, namely, William and Thomas. She departed this life the 16th day of March, 1628, and lieth here entombed expecting a joyful resurrection.

“Not that she needeth monument of stone
For her well-gotten fame to rest upon,
But this was reared to testify that she
Lives in their loves that yet surviving be ;
For unto virtue, who first raised her name,
She left the preservation of the same,
And to posterity remain it shall,
When marble monuments decay shall all.”

There is a tomb close by to Edmund Paston, who died in 1642. Mr. J. Mack lives at the modern Paston Hall ; but one of the farm buildings is a noble barn built by Sir William Paston, in the reign of Elizabeth. The celebrated Sir Astley Paston Cooper derived descent, by his mother's side, from this family.

KNAPTON

Is situated on a lofty eminence, one mile from Paston. The object of attraction here is the roof of the Church, which is of Irish oak, richly ornamented with carvings of saints and angels. The Church is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and has a nave and chancel, with a tower at the west end. Proceeding another mile, we reach Trunch Church, dedicated to St. Botolph. It contains an ancient font, surmounted by a very curious canopy.

The following couplet describes the situation of several villages :—

“Trimingham, Gimingham, Knapton, aud Trunch,
Southrepps, and Northrepps, lie all in a bunch.”

North Walsham, Wroxham, and the Broad.

A few minutes' ride by rail from the Mundesley Railway Station will take the visitor to

NORTH WALSHAM.

North Walsham is a pleasant though irregularly-built market-town, consisting chiefly of three streets. It has a neat Cross,



NORTH WALSHAM CHURCH.

built by Bishop Thurlby in the reign of Edward VI., and repaired in 1600 by Bishop Redman, whose arms, with those of the see, are impaled upon it. The town suffered considerably in 1381, when a large body of insurgents, headed by



WROXHAM BROAD.

John the Litester, or dyer, of Norwich, who had risen in rebellion at that city, soon after the insurrection of Wat Tyler, retreated towards this town, where they were totally overthrown by the troops of Bishop Spencer. On the Norwich road, about a mile south of the town, is a Cross, erected on

what was then heath, in commemoration of this event. In 1600 the town was nearly destroyed by an accidental fire.

The Church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, rebuilt soon after its destruction in the rebellion of 1381, is a noble structure. It is about one hundred and fifty-six feet long, and sixty-eight broad; having a nave, chancel, and side-aisles, with a fine south porch of flint and stone, adorned with boldly-sculptured ornaments, amongst which are the arms of John of Gaunt and of the Abbot of St. Bennet-at-the-Holm. The aisles are separated from the body by a range of elegantly-formed arches, supported by light clustered columns. A great part of the massive tower of this Church, which was originally one hundred and forty-seven feet high, fell down on the 16th of May, 1724; another large portion fell on April 26th, 1835; about half of the old tower still remains. On the north side of the chancel is a fine tomb, with the effigy of Sir William Paston, Knight, who, in 1607, agreed with John Key, of London, to erect and fit up his tomb with his effigy in armour, five feet and a half long, for which he was to be paid two hundred pounds. Sir William died the following year.

The font attracts much attention. The cover, which is profusely ornamented, is esteemed one of the richest of the kind in the kingdom. At the Grammar School, founded by Sir William Paston, several eminent men received their education, amongst whom were Lord Nelson; Watson, the author of "*Anglia Sacra*;" Sir William Hoste, and Archbishop Tenison.

WROXHAM

can be easily reached from North Walsham by rail. The visitor can secure in the village commodious and safe



From a Photo by

HORNING FERRY, RIVER BURE.

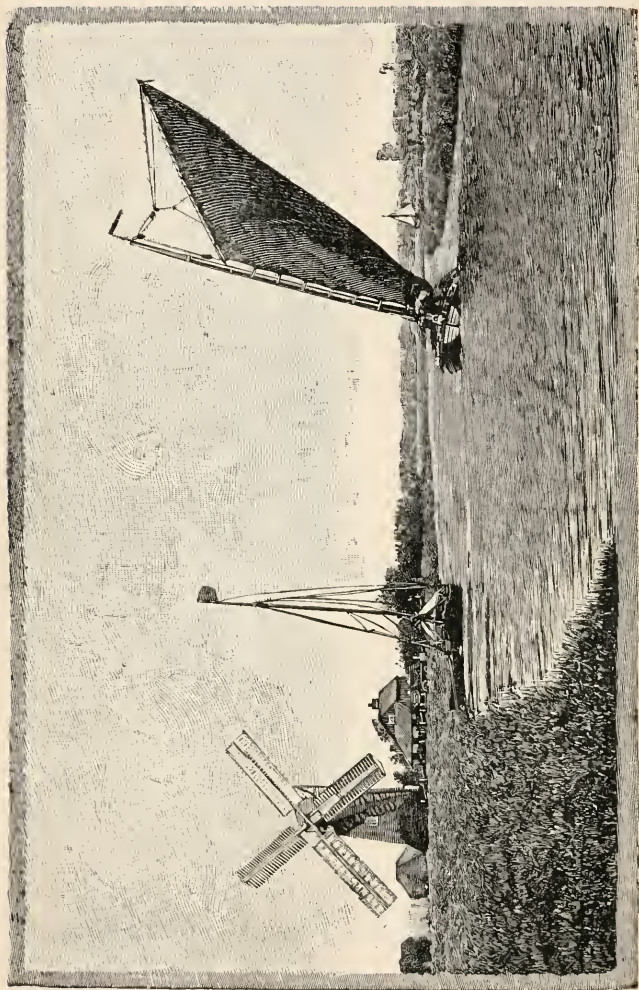
[*T. Ayers, Gt Yarmouth*

boats of the various yacht owners or at the riverside inns. A row of a mile and a half down the sinuous river, belted with woods and margined with reeds and flowers, brings the visitor to

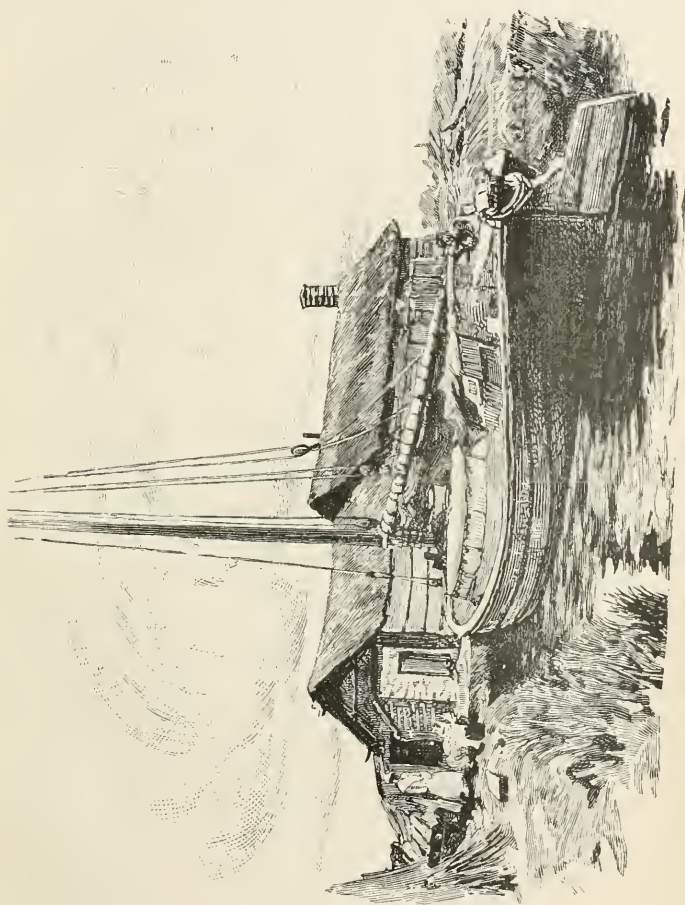
WROXHAM BROAD,

The most generally attractive of all these spacious sheets of water. Entrance is only to be obtained by the southern opening. The fishing is preserved, but permission is readily granted. It is, however, quite as good in the free river. Boating on the Broad is freely permitted, subject to certain necessary regulations, which are inscribed on a notice board at the entrance, and which are as much in the interest of well-behaved visitors as of the owners of the Broad. Shooting is strictly prohibited. The scene upon the Broad is enchanting.

Opposite Wroxham Broad are Hoveton Broad, now closed to the public. A little lower down are the two Salhouse Broad, which are favourite haunts of numerous artists. Boating is permitted, but fishing is not. Further along towards the winding river is Horning Ferry, a favourite angling resort. Two miles lower down the river is Ranworth Broad, the left-hand portion of which is navigable to the village. The right-hand portion is kept strictly private, and is a great nursery for wild fowl. South Walsham Broad is two or three miles farther, with a dyke leading to it. A portion of the Broad leading to the village of South Walsham is navigable, but the other portion is private. Nearly opposite the dyke to South



THE RIVER THURNE.



DYKE AT POTTER HEIGHAM.

Walsham Broad are the ruins of the famous Abbey of St Benet. The small navigable river Ant here joins the Bure. The fishing is free and good, particularly at Irstead Shoals, there being a hard gravelly bottom where perch are numerous. Barton Broad is a large navigable Broad, nine miles up the Ant, with a dyke leading to the small town of Stalham, where there are good inns, while private lodgings are obtainable.

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CAMBRIDGE—

University Arms Hotel (see display announcement on opposite page).

CLACTON-ON-SEA—

Victoria Private Hotel see display announcement on opposite page).

CROMER—

The Grand Hotel	}	See announcement on opposite page.
The Metropole		
Belmont Private Hotel	}	See announcement on page 8.
Alexandra Mansions		
Royal Golf Links Hotel (see page 1).		

FELIXSTOWE—

Felix Hotel (see announcement in front part of the Book).
Grand Hotel (see page 9).
Orwell Hotel (see page 9).
Quilter's Cliff Hotel (see page 9).
Melrose Private Hotel (see page 9).

LONDON (arranged in alphabetical order)—

Bedford Hotel (see page facing inside back cover).
Devonshire House Hotel (see inside back cover).
Esmond Hotel (see page 11).
Faulkner's Hot Is (see page facing inside back cover).
Kingsley Hotel (see page 11).
Thackeray Hotel (see page 11).
Tranter's Hotel (see page 12).
Wild's Temperance Hotels (see page 13).

LOWESTOFT—

Grand Hotel (see page 1).
Royal Hotel (see page 1).
Victoria Mansions Hotel (see page 10).
Lavelle's Hotel Belle Vue (see page 10).

OVERSTRAND—

The Overstrand Hotel (see announcement on opposite page).

SHERINGHAM—

The Grand Hotel (see announcement on opposite page).

For other First-class Hotels outside of East Anglia see page 1.

Tariffs forwarded Post Free on application to the respective Managers.

For SEAGER'S Delicacies. See page 11.

ALFRED BARNES, WOODBRIDGE. See page 12.

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For Tariffs, etc., apply Manager at each Hotel.

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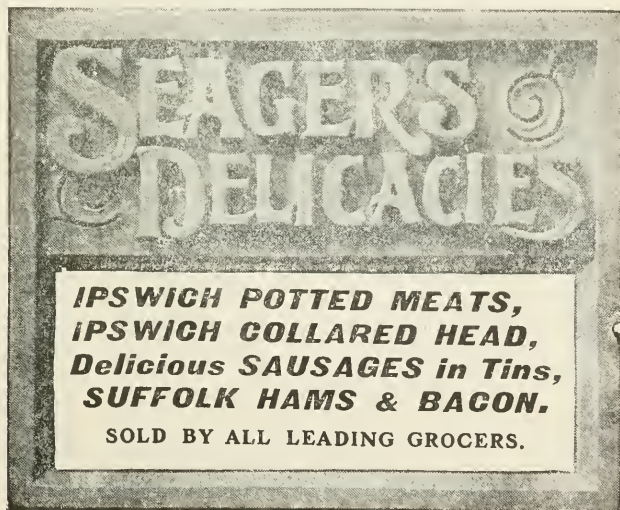
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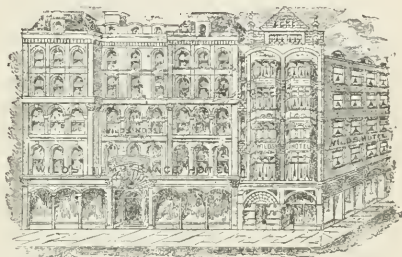
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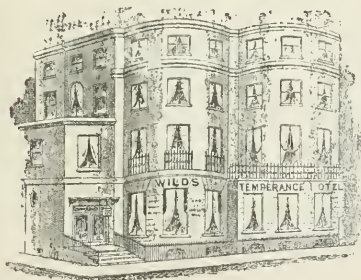
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